

REMARKS

Claim 12 has been amended above. No new matter has been added. Claim 24 has been canceled above. Claims 12 to 23 are now pending.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of this response.

A Supplemental IDS is being submitted herewith. That IDS includes references cited in Applicants' Specification.

Claims 12 to 17, 20, and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,278,955 to Forte et al. ("Forte reference").

The Forte reference purportedly concerns a system and method allowing users of an OSI mail handling system the advantage of communicating with users of other mail handling systems and utilizing the functionality of the OSI system. Specifically, the Forte reference refers to a method for utilizing an RFC-987 gateway as a means to realize a full Interpersonal Messaging (IPM) capability within a mail handling system. The Forte reference further recites that such a gateway capability coupled with an enhanced mail handler provides the user of the system the ability to process either RFC-822 or IPMs from a common mail queue and a single user interface.

In contrast, claim 12 is directed to a method for transmitting information including using a data structure defined by Abstract Syntax Notation One, transmitting the information encoded as text, the encoded text being decodable without access to an internal Abstract Syntax Notation One definition. The Forte reference does not appear to identically describe each of the features claimed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 12 and its dependent claims 13 to 17 and 20 are allowable, and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). Claim 24 has been canceled; thus, any rejection of claim 24 is moot.

Claims 18, 19, and 23, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over the Forte reference in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,836,008 to Goumillou ("Goumillou reference").

As explained above, the Forte reference does not describe each of the features of claim 12 and its dependent claims. The Goumillou reference does not cure the deficiencies of the Forte reference.

Claims 18 and 19 depend from claim 12. Claim 23 recites features analogous to those of claim 12. Claim 12 is directed to a method for transmitting information including using a data structure defined by Abstract Syntax Notation One, transmitting the information encoded as text, the encoded text being decodable without access to an internal Abstract Syntax Notation One definition. The Goumillou reference purportedly concerns a system for transmitting information between a source and a receiver via a network to which is connected

telecommunications equipment (comprised of a plurality of interfaces for various communication services) and an interface between the telecommunications equipment and external administration equipment. However, the Goumillou reference alone or in combination with the Forte reference does not describe or even suggest at least the features of claim 12. Moreover, the Goumillou reference does not teach each of the further features of the dependent claims 18 and 19. Further, it is respectfully submitted that the Forte and Goumillou references are not properly combinable since one concerns Interpersonal Messaging system and taking advantage of the OSI system, and the other concerns an interface between equipment and at the same time avoiding any conversion of data structure between the external administration and the internal management of the telecommunications equipment. (Goumillou reference, col. 2, and Abstract)

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 18, 19, and 23, are allowable; and Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of those claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the Forte and Goumillou references.

Claim 21 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the Forte reference in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,892,950 to Rigori et al. ("Rigori reference").

As explained above, the Forte and Goumillou references do not teach or even suggest the features of claim 21 (which depends from claim 12). The Rigori reference does not cure their deficiencies.

The Rigori reference purportedly concerns an applications programming interface to a telecommunications management network having a command language interpreter and a compiler. The interpreter includes interpreter scripts for converting the network management parameters between the command string format and a network management protocol compatible format. The compiler compiles interpreter scripts for encoding and decoding user defined parameter types, which are then loaded dynamically to the interpreter.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the Forte, Goumillou, and Rigori references cannot serve as a prior art reference to the present application, and the Rigori reference taken alone does not describe or even suggest features of claim 21. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 21, are allowable; and Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of those claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the Forte, Goumillou, and Rigori references.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of all claims be withdrawn, and that all claims be held allowable.

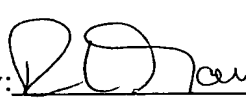

CONCLUSION

In view of all of the above, it is believed that the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), 103(a) rejections of claims 12 to 23 have been obviated, and that all currently pending claims 12 to 23 are allowable. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn in light of the further clarifications above, and that the present application issue as early as possible.

If for any reason the Examiner believes that contact with Applicants' attorney would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number given below.

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Respectfully submitted,
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